Task Force 3-505 PIR

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Family Readiness Group Briefing

22 October 2003

Agenda

- Prayer
- ACS Brief
- Theater Update
- Rumors
- Notes from the Rear Detachment Team
- FRG Notes
- Upcoming Events
- Questions

Army Community Services

- 1330 - Ellen Bowman
- 1800 - Ellen Bowman

XVIII AIRBORNE CORPS & FORT BRAGG

3-505th

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE

2-505th

Fort Bragg

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

The mission of the ACS center is to—

Facilitate commanders ability to provide comprehensive, coordinated and responsive services which support readiness of soldiers, civilian employees and their families.

Army Community Service Center

- **Deployment/Mobilization Readiness**
- **Employment Readiness**
- **Financial Readiness**
- **Information and Referral**
- **Installation Volunteer Services**
- **Relocation Readiness**
- **Soldier & Family Readiness**

Army Community Service Center

- **Located in Community Center**
- **Bldg 1-3571 (Knox & Randolph Sts)**
- **Hours of Operation:**
  - **Monday - Friday (closed weekends/holidays)**
  - **0830-1700**
- **http://www.bragg.army.mil/mwr/community/acs_default.htm**

Deployment & Mobilization Readiness

- **Support soldiers (married, single, active, reserve) and their family members.**
- **Provides assistance to commanders and volunteers in establishing and maintaining Family Readiness Group's (FRG's) to allow everybody to stay in a constant state of readiness during deployment, training, exercises, etc.**
- **Facilitate network of communication between Major Subordinate Commands, FRG & Rear Detachment commanders, and FRG leaders/volunteers.**

Deployment & Mobilization Readiness

- **Key role during deployment/disasters**
- **Training in Operation R.E.A.D.Y.**
  - **Predeployment**
  - **Family Assistance Center's**
  - **Family Readiness Groups**
  - **Children's Workbooks**
  - **Post-deployment/Reunions**

Deployment & Mobilization Readiness

- **Family Assistance Center Activated by Installation Commander**
- **24 hour operation during crisis/major deployments**
- **Provides assistance to family members as needed**
- **Provides referrals as required**
- **Phone: 396-2473 or 1-800-457-4636**

Employment Readiness

- **Family Member Employment Program**
- **Resource for employment, education, and volunteer opportunities**
- **Referrals to on- an off-post agencies**
- **Monthly skills workshops (interviewing, resume, etc.)**
- **Computer access (internet job search, resumes)**
- **NOT A PLACEMENT AGENCY**

Employment Readiness

- **Assistance can be provided on employment at other military installations**
- **In house, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina office**

Financial Readiness

- **Army Emergency Relief**
- **Provides financial assistance (non-interest bearing loans, grants when appropriate), or a combination loan and grant**
  - **Types of emergencies covered:**
    - **Non-receipt of, or loss of funds**
    - **Medical, dental, and hospital expenses**
    - **Funeral expenses for immediate family members**
    - **Travel expenses related to emergencies**
    - **Rent, food, and utilities**

Financial Readiness

- **Consumer Affairs/Financial Assistance**
- **Focuses on improving soldiers' personal financial readiness through preventive education and counseling**
- **Classes are given to units to fulfill their training requirements and to other organizations as requested**
- **Referrals to Debit Management Counseling Services**

Financial Readiness

- **Budget classes**
- **Checkbook management classes**
- **Individual budget counseling**
- **Trains Command Financial NCO Program**

Information & Referral

- **On/off post Community Information Source**
- **Answers Unlimited**
- **Travel Maps**
- **Monthly Information Update**
- **Coordinate ACS volunteers**
- **Phone: (910) 396-8682**

Installation Volunteer Services

- **All volunteer components under one umbrella**
  - **Army Family Action Plan**
  - **Army Family Team Building**
  - **Community Life Program**
  - **Installation Volunteer Coordinator**
  - **Private Organizations, Fundraising, & Solicitation**
- **Location: Community Center, Randolph Street Parking Lot**
- **Phone: 396-7110/8160**

Installation Volunteer Services

- **Army Family Action Plan**
- **Grassroots program designed to improve the well-being of the entire Army family**
- **Local AFAP Conference held annually in October**
- **Delegates represent demographics of community and review/prioritize issues submitted from the community**
- **Issues submitted can lead to legislation change, new programs, funding, etc.**

Installation Volunteer Services

- **Army Family Team Building**
- **Designed in 3 levels for different stages of Army life**
  - ***Level I*** **- for family members new to army life**
  - ***Level II*** **- management skills for family members taking on the challenges of army and everyday life**
  - ***Level III*** **- great for "seasoned spouses" to learn a variety of advanced management skills**
- **All levels provide valuable knowledge and skills - great additions to resumes**
- **Classes are free and limited childcare is available to students at no cost**

Installation Volunteer Services

- **Community Life Program**
- **Provides support, guidance, and training to the housing area sponsor unit representatives and volunteer council members**
- **Program assists in improving quality of life for soldiers and family members who reside on post**

Installation Volunteer Services

- **Installation Volunteer Coordinator**
- **Gain valuable work skills**
- **Placement based on individual/agency needs**
- **Centralized database for registration and documentation (required by regulation)**
- **Awards/recognition guidance**
- **Volunteer Agency resource**

Installation Volunteer Services

- **Private Organization, Fundraising & Solicitation**
- **Central clearinghouse for PO registration and approval on the installation**
- **Ensures operations are in the best interest of the Army and Fort Bragg**
- **Provides approvals for all fundraising efforts**
- **Works closely with SJA to ensure legal and ethical guidelines are met**
- **Monitors/addresses solicitation issues**

Relocation Readiness

- **SITES (Relocation Information)**
- **Pre-move briefings**
- **International Spouse Orientations**
- **Newcomer's Bus Tour**
- **Automap (within CONUS)**
- **Sponsorship Program**
- **Waiting Spouse Group**

Relocation Readiness

- **Lending Closet 396-6013**
- **Assistance for families PCSing to or from Ft. Bragg**
- **Items available include:**
  - **Small electrical appliances, pots, pans, dishes.**
  - **Ironing boards, cribs, cots, high chairs.**
  - **Infant car seats, and more**

Soldier & Family Readiness

- **Family Advocacy Program (FAP)**
- **Dedicated to the prompt intervention, treatment, and prevention of spouse and child abuse**
- **Enhances quality of life through seminars, classes, and workshops to prepare for and assist in relieving pressures and stresses of military life**
- **Assists commanders in ensuring unit, soldier, and family readiness**

Soldier & Family Readiness

- **Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)**
- **School system advocate for family members with disabilities or medical conditions**
- **Liaison to Early Intervention, Child Development and Youth Recreation & School Age Services programs**
- **Provides community support information & assistance for medically related services**

Theater Update

- 2 casualties yesterday
  - Non-combat vehicle accident
  - Will return to duty
- Successful raids in Fallujah area.
- Fatality in 1 Panther
- B Co article in Fayetteville Observer
- Email is working……for now
- ETS / PCS soldiers leaving BIAP today
- Next push of soldiers to OIF:
  - o/a 10 November and 23 November

Rumors

No big issues out there…so what have you heard?

Rear Detachment Team Notes

- **OPSEC!!!**
- **Welcome Back for SGT Craig / CPL Rodriguez**
- **Prank calls about casualties / fatalities**
- **Mailing Packages**
  - **Pope AFB Post Office 394-2828**
    - **251 Apollo St**
    - **Reilly to dead-end / T-intersection into Apollo**
    - **Stay right, should see it on the right**
  - **Raeford Rd. Post Office – No Line!!!**
    - **Next to Harris Teeters and Stein Mart**
- **Hockey games**
- **Don’t forget to access the website for info**

http://www.bragg.army.mil/3-505

FRG Meeting Schedule

- 12 November – ACS presentation to children
- 3 December – Army Financial Assistance Programs

*** All times are 1330 and 1800 at the NCO Club ***

FRG Notes

(Sheila Johnson / Missy Zeisman)

- ***On the Home Front*** **Newsletter**
  - **E-mail Address: pantherwives3505@hotmail.com**
  - **First edition has went out last week.**
    - **Copies are on the front table**
  - **Please submit your articles for the second edition by October 27th**
- **Panther Merchandise**
  - **Yellow Ribbon Magnets: $5**
  - **Ornaments with 505th crest: 1 for $6 or 2 for $10**
  - **"My Heart" T-Shirts: $10**
- **Free Mailing Supplies from the Postal Service**
  - **1-800-222-1811**

FRG Notes

(Sheila Johnson / Missy Zeisman)

- **Christmas Packages**
  - **Ideas**
    - **Toiletries, socks, DVDs, CDs, cookies, candies**
    - **Horseshoe sets, Darts, Boxing Gloves**
    - **Basketballs, Footballs**
    - **Board Games**
- **Donations**
  - **Seek support from Churches, businesses, individuals, and community groups**
  - **Letter on the front table**

Upcoming Activities

- **Book Club**
  - ***The Switch*** **by Sandra Brown**

    Saturday, November 15 at 7:00 pm

    Contact: Deanna McCarty 848-0551
- **Red Cross Project Video Connect**
  - **Red Cross is coming in November to record a message from each family to their soldier. More info to come.**
- **Yule Mart 2003**
  - **November 21, 22, and 23**
  - **Christmas Bazzar with Santa's Shop for the kids**

Upcoming Activities

- **Creative Memories Workshops**
  - **November 15**
  - **Contact Heather Cunningham at 426-0852**
- **De-stressing Yoga November 8th, 10:30-1:30**
  - **Free Childcare available.**
  - **Holiday Basket Weaving**
  - **Call ACS at 396-8682**
- **Tolson Center Halloween Party**
  - **October 31 at the Tolson Center**
  - **Fliers on the table**

Upcoming Activities

- **Iraqi School Supply Drive**
  - **Please solicit help and donate school supplies for the Iraqi children**
  - **Drop off at staff duty desk or the FRG Meetings**

BOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!

- **Halloween Party-**
  - **October 25, 1400 - 1700**
  - **Location and Time: Battalion Area**
- **A - Food**
- **B - Crafts**
- **C - Crafts**
- **D - Decorations**
- **HHC – Games**

All can wear costumes!

Who is planning to attend?

Christmas Party & Activities

- **December 6th**
  - **Videotaping**
  - **Santa Pictures**
  - **Cookies**
- **Ideas for location**
  - **Bowling / Fascinate U?**
- **Deployment Survival Kits**
- **Each company needs help putting packages together**
  - **Mail by November 15th**

Questions?